

RESOURCES for AGING
January 30, 2006 (Vol. 3 No. 2)

Welcome to Resources for Aging, the twice-monthly electronic newsletter (e-newsletter) of the **Michigan Office of Services to the Aging (OSA)** in **Lansing**. It provides timely information about aging network news, events and resources.

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Complimentary Issues are sent directly by e-mail to those on the e-newsletter distribution list, and printed copies are mailed upon request to those who do not have Internet/e-mail access. Also, this issue and past issues can be accessed at www.miseniors.net.

For more information about this e-newsletter, see the RESOURCES FOR AGING section at the end of this issue.

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AGING NETWORK NEWS

Governor's SOS Covers Issues of Importance to Senior Adults

Gov. Jennifer Granholm covered several issues of interest to Michigan elders during her State of the State (SOS) address **January 25** at the State Capitol Building in **Lansing**. The SOS theme was "Working Our Plan, Securing Our Future."

The Governor discussed topics such as economic security, workforce development, alternative energy, affordable and accessible health care, education, and the protection of our citizens.

Her SOS also raised a number of important issues with significant implications for Michigan's burgeoning aging population. She called for:

- ❖ Creating 30,000 jobs by accelerating nearly \$3 billion in infrastructure projects which include the upgrading of nursing homes across our state.
- ❖ Providing access to quality, affordable health care, including mental health services, for 550,000 individuals through a Michigan First Health Care Plan.
- ❖ Shifting health care delivery toward the 21st century by utilizing technology to improve the health care system.
- ❖ Encouraging healthy lifestyles and personal responsibility to decrease the rate of preventable diseases, and provide more affordable health care.
- ❖ Asking the State Legislature to support legislation to remove the limits on stem cell research in Michigan, so modern science can be utilized to combat life threatening illnesses (such as Parkinsons).
- ❖ Urging legislators to protect Michigan's senior adults by passing legislation requiring criminal background checks for those who provide direct care in facilities (such as nursing homes, county medical care facilities, hospices, hospitals and home health agencies).
- ❖ Setting aside money for emergency assistance to those who are struggling to pay heating bills (and at the Governor's request, the Public Service Commission has agreed to set aside an additional \$25 million for home heating).
- ❖ Urging the State Legislature to enact new protections against identity theft.

Senior Summit 2006 Scheduled for April

Beautiful Northern Michigan will be the site for Senior Summit 2006. Entitled “The Upside of Aging: The Business of Aging Professional Development,” it will be held **April 25** at the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa in **Traverse City**.

The conference is hosted by the Aging Institute of Michigan (AIM), and sponsored by AARP and the Traverse Area Chamber of Commerce. Its purpose is to give business leaders and leaders from the public, private and nonprofit sectors, an opportunity to learn, network and consider the future of aging, and its impending transformation of the marketplace, the work place and the lives of our citizens.

Special guest speaker is **Maddy Dychtwald**, Marketing Executive & Co-Founder of Age Wave, a firm created to guide Fortune 500 companies and government groups in product/service development for boomers and mature adults. She also is the author of Cycles: How We Will Live, Work and Buy.

Other featured speakers include **Russel Bodoff**, Executive Director of the Center for Aging Services and Technologies, and **Thomas Hartwig**, President and CEO of the Gerontology Network in Grand Rapids, and Founder of Mature Living Environments, Inc.

In addition, several lunch and learn sessions on a variety of timely topics will be offered, as well as an Exhibitor Marketplace.

Conference participants will gain knowledge, insight and understanding about the impact of those persons age 55 and older on the marketplace. Participants also will learn a variety of ways to become an active player in the development of livable communities for all ages. This will involve health care advances, environmental modifications, and assistive technologies to provide physical challenges and vital, active lifestyles.

A special pre-conference event is planned for **April 24**. It will focus on “Ageonomics: Aging and the New Economy,” and will feature nationally known economists **Clare Zimple** and **Cliff Russell**. Also, special guest **Jenefer Duane** of the Elder Financial Protection Network of Novato, CA will speak about “Best Practices in Elder Financial Abuse Prevention” and “Recognizing and Reporting Elder Financial Abuse for the Banking and Financial Communities.”

Chair of the conference planning committee is **Dona Wishart**, Program Planning and Marketing Director for the Otsego County Commission on Aging, and a former member of the Michigan Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA). The conference planning committee includes representatives from business, hospitals, senior housing, health care agencies, financial services, and the aging network.

For more information or to register, go to www.seniorssummit.net or call 231/941-1905.

OSA Annual Report for 2005 Now Available Online

The OSA Annual Report for Fiscal Year (FY) 2005 is now available online. It can be downloaded from the OSA website, www.miseniors.net. The report explains how the mission, vision and goals of OSA were addressed and implemented during FY 2005 on

behalf of senior adults in our state.

OSA EVENTS/MEETINGS

State Advisory Council on Aging (SAC)

The next meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m. **February 9** at the Holiday Inn Lansing West Conference Center, 7501 W. Saginaw Highway in **Lansing**. For more information, call **Sally Steiner** at OSA (517/373-8810) or e-mail her at steiners@michigan.gov.

Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA)

The next meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. **February 17** at the Holiday Inn Lansing West Conference Center, 7501 W. Saginaw Highway in **Lansing**. For more information, call **Cindy Albrecht** at OSA (517/335-4016) or e-mail her at albrechtc@michigan.gov.

Michigan Task Force on Elder Abuse

The next meeting is taking place at 10:00 a.m. **March 2** at the Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft in **Livonia**. It will focus on issues of physical abuse and neglect; parallels between domestic violence and senior adult domestic violence; Michigan's Adult Abuse and Neglect Prevention Training grant; and the role of the medical examiner in elder abuse cases. For more information, go to www.elderabusemi.org, or call **Wendi Middleton** at OSA (517/373-8230) or e-mail her at middletonw@michigan.gov.

OSA/Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Directors

The meeting scheduled for February 14 has been cancelled. The next meeting will be held **March 14** at a location to be determined. For more information, call **Jan Bowlin** at OSA (517/241-3864) or e-mail her at bowlinj1@michigan.gov, or call **Mary Ablan** at the Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan (517/886-1227) or e-mail her at ablan@iserv.net.

OSA State Plan Public Input Sessions

The next state plan public input session will be held 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. **February 21** at Historic Trinity Lutheran Church in **Detroit**.

To date, OSA and the Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA) have conducted two public input sessions (**October 21** at the Zibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways in **Mt. Pleasant** and **November 18** at the Holiday Inn Lansing West Conference Center in **Lansing**) and will conduct five more sessions to obtain public input to develop the 2007-2010 State Plan on Services for Michigan's Older Citizens.

Those interested in transportation, nutrition, housing, long-term care (LTC), health, independence, scams, employment, and volunteer opportunities for senior adults, and other issues important to senior adults are invited to attend these free public input sessions to express their opinions to policy makers.

The five remaining input sessions will be held 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the following sites:

February 21 at Historic Trinity Lutheran Church in **Detroit**

March 17 at ACCESS in **Dearborn**

March 21 at Senior Services, Inc. in **Kalamazoo**

March 29 at the U of M Flint Conference Center in **Flint**

May 19 at the Little Bear East Arena & Community Center in **St. Ignace**

Verbal comments made by interested individuals at the public input sessions are welcome. Written comments also may be submitted by **May 20** to OSA (7109 West Saginaw Highway, P.O. Box 30676 in **Lansing**, 48909-8176). For more information or directions to the sites, go to the OSA website (www.miseniors.net) or call OSA (517/373-8230).

EVENTS/MEETINGS ADDED SINCE THE LAST ISSUE

Fighting Fraud: It's a Family Matter is the theme of National Consumer Week sponsored by the US Postal Service Consumer Advocate's Office and the US Postal Inspection Service to educate American families about fraudulent schemes and equip them with tools to protect themselves **February 5-11**. For more information, call 313/226-8201 or e-mail to clsmith@uspis.gov.

Black History Programs: Effective Messages for Black Health, a brown bag lunch program sponsored by the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) Diversity Workgroup **February 8** in Conference Room C of the Capital View State Office Building in **Lansing**. For more information, call **Pam Hall** at OSA (517/373-9361) or e-mail her at hallpamela@michigan.gov.

Senior Advocates Coalition, sponsored by Senior Resources, an Area Agency on Aging (AAA-14), **February 13** at the AAA in **Muskegon Heights**. For more information, go to www.seniorresources.us or call 231/739-5858.

Black History Programs: Genomics Ethics and Communities of Color, a brown bag lunch program sponsored by the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) Diversity Workgroup **February 17** in Conference Room C of the Capital View State Office Building in **Lansing**. For more information, call **Pam Hall** at OSA (517/373-9361) or e-mail her at hallpamela@michigan.gov.

Legal Rights of Older Adults: Disability and Consent, a Spring 2006 Gerontology Seminar sponsored by the Lansing Community College (LCC) Health and Human Services Careers Department, and the LCC Mental Health and Aging Project **February 17** at LCC in **Lansing**. For more information, call 517/483-1529 or e-mail to beham@lcc.edu.

Bridging the Gap, a weekend conference sponsored by the Michigan Association for Foster, Adoptive and Kinship Parents (MAFAK) in partnership with the Michigan Department of Human Services (MDHS) and the MSU School of Social Work **February 24-26** at the Radisson Plaza Hotel at Kalamazoo Center in **Kalamazoo**. For more information, call 586/469-4333 or e-mail to almaprill@aol.com.

Working with People with Dementia: Environmental and Communications Strategies, a Spring 2006 Gerontology Seminar sponsored by the Lansing Community College (LCC) Health and Human Services Careers Department, and the LCC Mental Health and Aging Project **March 3** at LCC in **Lansing**. For more information, call 517/483-1529 or e-mail to beham@lcc.edu.

Literacy for Life: Celebrating 50 Years of the MRA, an annual conference sponsored by the Michigan Reading Association (MRA) **March 18-20** at Cobo Center in **Detroit**. For more information, go to www.michiganreading.org.

Depression in Older Adults: Recognition and Treatment, a Spring 2006 Gerontology Seminar sponsored by the Lansing Community College (LCC) Health and Human Services Careers Department, and the LCC Mental Health and Aging Project **March 24** at LCC in **Lansing**. For more information, call 517/483-1529 or e-mail to beham@lcc.edu.

Senior Summit 2006, a conference entitled "The Upside of Aging: The Business of Aging Professional Development Seminar," and sponsored by AARP and the Traverse Area Chamber of Commerce, and hosted by the Aging Institute of Michigan (AIM) **April 25** at the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa in **Traverse City**. For more information, go to www.seniorssummit.net or call 231/941-1905. Also, see the AGING NETWORK NEWS section of this issue (above).

2006 Joint Annual Conference, sponsored by the Michigan Association of Nutrition and Aging Service Programs (MANASP) and the Michigan Directors of Services to the Aging (MDSA) **May 17-18** at the Doubletree in **Bay City**. For more information, call 810/987-8811 or e-mail to coaj_hager@arenet.net or katygchc@sbcglobal.net.

Third Annual Michigan Mental Health & Aging Conference, sponsored by the Lansing Community College (LCC) Mental Health and Aging Project (formerly the OBRA Conference), **May 23-24** at the Michigan State University (MSU) Kellogg Center in **East Lansing**. For more information, call 517/483-1529 or e-mail to beham@lcc.edu.

Annual Training Conference, sponsored by the National Association of Nutrition and Aging Service Providers (NANASP) **June 29-July 1** at the Wynfry Hotel in **Birmingham, AL**. For more information, go to www.nanasp.org or call 202/682-6899.

MICHIGAN CONFERENCES

Call for Presentations: Connecting Generations, a statewide conference sponsored by the Southeast Michigan Intergenerational network May 18 at Madonna University in **Livonia** to focus on intergenerational programs and policies. The deadline for submitting presentation proposals is **February 10**. For more information, call 734/485-2000, ext. 239 or e-mail to connecgen@madonna.edu.

10th Annual Play Therapy Conference, sponsored by Life Guidance Services, a nonprofit behavioral health organization, **February 24-25** at the Radisson Hotel in **Lansing**. For more information, call 616/774-9548, ext. 520.

11th Annual Michigan Traffic Safety Summit, sponsored by the Office of Highway

Safety Planning of the Michigan Department of Transportation (M-DOT) **February 28-March 1** at the Sheraton Lansing Hotel in **Lansing**. For more information, call 517/333-5325.

Michigan's Long-Term Care Conference, sponsored by the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) Office of Long-Term Care (LTC) Supports and Services **March 23-24** at the Hilton Detroit in **Troy**. For more information, go to www.michigan.gov/mdch.

7th Annual Art of Aging Successfully Conference, entitled "Learning, Laughing and Caring" sponsored by the Wayne State University (WSU) Institute of Gerontology (IOG) **March 29** to showcase the creative interests (crafts, memoirs and music) of non-professional Michigan senior adults age 55 and older. For more information, call 313/577-2297 or e-mail to j.mendez@wayne.edu.

Michigan Nonprofit Super Conference 2006: New Directions in Nonprofit Excellence, sponsored by the Michigan Nonprofit Association **May 2-3** at the Sheraton Detroit Novi in **Novi**. For more information, go to www.mnaonline.org or call 517/492-2400.

Partnering in Care: The Seventh Dr. Richard Seyfarth Schreiber Memorial Conference, sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association Michigan Great Lakes Chapter **May 16** at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in **Kalamazoo**. For more information go to www.alzmgreatlakes.org or call 269/387-4174.

MICHIGAN NONPROFIT SEMINARS/TRAINING EVENTS

8 Track Parenting in a CD World, an Issues in Aging for Professionals and Families seminar sponsored by Macomb County Community College **February 2** at its Fraser Campus in **Fraser**. For more information, go to www.macomb.edu or call 586/498-4006.

Skills Content for Social Work with Diverse Populations: Black Male Populations, a free workshop sponsored by the Michigan State University (MSU) School of Social Work **February 6** in Baker Hall at MSU. For more information, call 517/353-8616 or e-mail to hallr@msu.edu.

Moving a Loved One (When and How to Move a Loved One), a free training session sponsored by the Macomb County Department of Senior Citizen Services as part of its Community Education Series **February 9** at the Southeast Health Center in **St. Clair Shores**. For more information or to register, call 586/466-6817 or e-mail to joy.roark@macombcountymi.gov.

Do-It-Yourself Care Management, an Issues in Aging for Professionals and Families seminar sponsored by Macomb County Community College **February 11** at its Fraser Campus in **Fraser**. For more information, go to www.macomb.edu or call 586/498-4006.

You Can't do it All – How to be an Effective Caregiver, a free Caring Partners Workshop sponsored by the Brown Jewish Community Adult Day Care Program with

support from the Jewish Women's Foundation **February 12** at Young Israel of Southfield in **Southfield**. For more information, call 248/233-4000.

Partnering with Your Doctor, a training session sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association – Greater Michigan Chapter, Upper Peninsula Region **February 14** at the Hiawatha Behavioral Health Office in **Manistique**. For more information, call toll-free 800/272-3900 or 906/228-3910.

Grief and Loss, a Contemporary Issues in Aging seminar sponsored by Michigan State University (MSU) School of Social Work Continuing Education Program as part of its Professional Seminar Series **February 18** at MSU in **East Lansing**. For more information, go to www.ssc.msu.edu/-sw/ceu/index.html or call 517/353-8620.

Will & Trust Preparation, an Issues in Aging for Professionals and Families seminar sponsored by Macomb County Community College **February 21** at its Center Campus in **Clinton Township**. For more information, go to www.macomb.edu or call 586/498-4006.

Skills Content for Social Work with Diverse Populations: Spanish Speaking Populations, a free workshop sponsored by the Michigan State University (MSU) School of Social Work **March 6** in Baker Hall at MSU. For more information, call 517/353-8616 or e-mail to hallr@msu.edu.

Trainers' Creativity Day Camp 2006, a two-day training experience for training coordinators sponsored by the Rockhurst University Continuing Education Center **March 7-8** at the Hillton Inn in **Southfield**, **March 8-9** at the Clarion Hotel Convention Center in **Lansing**, and **March 9-10** at the Radisson Hotel North in **Grand Rapids**. For more information, go to www.nationalseminarstraining.com or call toll-free 800/258-7246.

Your 36 Hour Day, an Issues in Aging for Professionals and Families seminar sponsored by Macomb County Community College **March 14** at its Fraser Campus in **Fraser**. For more information, go to www.macomb.edu or call 586/498-4006.

Non-Alzheimer's Primary Degenerative Dementias & Primary Degenerative Dementias Current Research, a training session sponsored by the Gerontology Network **March 17** at the DeVos Family Center for Scouting in **Grand Rapids**. For more information, go to www.gerontologynetwork.org or call 616/771-9710.

Legal Issues and Eldercare, a Contemporary Issues in Aging seminar sponsored by Michigan State University (MSU) School of Social Work Continuing Education Program as part of its Professional Seminar Series **March 18** at MSU in **East Lansing**. For more information, go to www.ssc.msu.edu/-sw/ceu/index.html or call 517/353-8620.

Challenging Behaviors of Dementia, a training session sponsored by the Gerontology Network **March 31** at Shelby Adult Education in **Shelby**. For more information, go to www.gerontologynetwork.org or call 616/771-9710.

Final Financial Decisions, an Issues in Aging for Professionals and Families seminar sponsored by Macomb County Community College **April 3** at its Fraser Campus in **Fraser**. For more information, go to www.macomb.edu or call 586/498-4006.

Skills Content for Social Work with Diverse Populations: Refugee Populations, a free workshop sponsored by the Michigan State University (MSU) School of Social Work **April 3** in Baker Hall at MSU. For more information, call 517/353-8616 or e-mail to hallr@msu.edu.

Losing Your World, a training session sponsored by the Gerontology Network **April 14** at Above & Beyond in **Norton Shores**. For more information, go to www.gerontologynetwork.org or call 616/771-9710.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Aging, a Contemporary Issues in Aging seminar sponsored by Michigan State University (MSU) School of Social Work Continuing Education Program as part of its Professional Seminar Series **April 22** at MSU in **East Lansing**. For more information, go to www.ssc.msu.edu/sw/ceu/index.html or call 517/353-8620.

Advanced Techniques in Dementia Care, a training session sponsored by the Gerontology Network **April 28** at Michigan Works at Michigan Works in **Reed City**. For more information, go to www.gerontologynetwork.org or call 616/771-9710.

Losing Your World, a training session sponsored by the Gerontology Network **May 19** at the Montcalm County Commission on Aging in **Stanton**. For more information, go to www.gerontologynetwork.org or call 616/771-9710.

Grant Writing Made Simple, a training session sponsored by the Michigan State University (MSU) Kinship Care Resource Center **May 25** at the Holiday Inn-Saginaw in **Lansing**. For more information, call toll-free 800/535-1218 or e-mail to kinship@msu.edu.

Advanced Techniques in Dementia Care, a training session sponsored by the Gerontology Network **June 9** at Evergreen Commons in **Holland**. For more information, go to www.gerontologynetwork.org or call 616/771-9710.

Managing Challenging Behaviors of Dementia, a training session sponsored by the Gerontology Network **June 16** at the Osceola State Bank in **Baldwin**. For more information, go to www.gerontologynetwork.org or call 616/771-9710.

Identifying Community Resources, a training session sponsored by the Michigan State University (MSU) Kinship Care Resource Center **June 23** at the Hannah Community Center in **East Lansing**. For more information, call toll-free 800/535-1218 or e-mail to kinship@msu.edu.

OTHER MICHIGAN EVENTS/MEETINGS

Best Practices of Northern Michigan Committee (BPNM) Meeting, sponsored by Citizens for Better Care of Northern Michigan **February 7** at the Diocese of Gaylord in **Gaylord**. For more information, call toll-free 866/485-9393 or 231/947-2504.

7th Annual Legislative Reception, sponsored by the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council **February 14** at the Lansing Radisson Hotel in **Lansing**. For more information, go to www.michigan.gov/ddcouncil or call 517/334-7239.

Legislative Luncheon, sponsored by the Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan (AAAAM) **February 15** on the first floor of the south wing of the Michigan State Capitol Building in **Lansing**. For more information call 517/886-1227, or e-mail to ablan@iserv.net.

Almost Home, the broadcast premiere of a feature-length film, a documentary shot on location in a nursing home and produced by 371 Productions and Wisconsin Public Television to be aired **February 21** on your local public television station in Michigan. For more information, go to www.almosthomedoc.org.

Best Practices of Northern Michigan Committee (BPNM) Meeting, sponsored by Citizens for Better Care of Northern Michigan **March 7** at the Medilodge Nursing Home in **Sterling**. For more information, call toll-free 866/485-9393 or 231/947-2504.

Ingham County Kinship Care Service Provider's Meeting, sponsored by the Michigan State University (MSU) Kinship Care Resource Center **March 16** at the Holiday Inn-Saginaw in **Lansing**. For more information, call toll-free 800/535-1218 or e-mail to kinship@msu.edu.

Best Practices of Northern Michigan Committee (BPNM) Meeting, sponsored by Citizens for Better Care of Northern Michigan **April 4** at the Diocese of Gaylord in **Gaylord**. For more information, call toll-free 866/485-9393 or 231/947-2504.

Kent County Kinship Legal and Meditation Meeting, sponsored by the Michigan State University (MSU) Kinship Care Resource Center **April 20** at the Eastbrook Homes Conference Center in **Grand Rapids**. For more information, call toll-free 800/535-1218 or e-mail to kinship@msu.edu.

Gala 2006: An Evening Under the Stars, entitled "Living Longer and Loving It" with net proceeds to benefit the Chronic Illness Coalition (CIC) **April 25** at the Laurel Manor Convention Center in **Livonia**. For more information, call 734/658-4317.

Wayne County Kinship Legal and Mediation Meeting, sponsored by the Michigan State University (MSU) Kinship Care Resource Center **April 26** at the William Costick Center in **Farmington Hills**. For more information, call toll-free 800/535-1218 or e-mail to kinship@msu.edu.

Best Practices of Northern Michigan Committee (BPNM) Meeting, sponsored by Citizens for Better Care of Northern Michigan **May 2** at the Medilodge in **Hillman**. For more information, call toll-free 866/485-9393 or 231/947-2504.

Ingham County Kinship Caregivers Speak-Out Meeting with State Legislators interested in kinship issues, sponsored by the Michigan State University (MSU) Kinship Care Resource Center **May 12** at the Hannah Community Center in **East Lansing**. For more information, call toll-free 800/535-1218 or e-mail to kinship@msu.edu.

UP Kinship Service Provider's Meeting, sponsored by the Michigan State University (MSU) Kinship Care Resource Center **June 1** at the Northern Michigan University (NMU) Don Bottum University Center in **Marquette**. For more information, call toll-free 800/535-1218 or e-mail to kinship@msu.edu.

CONFERENCES/EVENTS OUTSIDE MICHIGAN

32nd Annual Meeting and Educational Leadership Conference, entitled “Outcomes of Gerontological and Geriatric Education” and sponsored by The Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE) **February 9-12** at the Westin Indianapolis in **Indianapolis, IN**. For more information, go to www.aghe.org or call 202/289-9806.

World Parkinson Congress, sponsored by the World Parkinson Congress and the National Institutes of Health **February 22-26** at the Washington Convention Center in **Washington, DC**. For more information, go to www.worldpdcongress.org or call 972/395-1119.

2006 Annual Housing Policy Conference & Lobby Day, sponsored by the National Low Income Housing Coalition **February 27-28** at the Capital Hilton in **Washington, DC**. For more information, go to www.nlihc.org, call 202/662-1530 or e-mail to conference@nlihc.org.

Native Women & Men’s Wellness V Conference, a health promotion conference sponsored by the University of Oklahoma OUTREACH **March 5-9** at the Town and Country Resort Hotel in **San Diego, CA**. For more information, go to www.hpp.ou.edu or call 405/325-1316.

2006 Joint Conference, entitled “Invest in Aging: Strengthening Families, Communities and Ourselves” and co-sponsored by the National Council on the Aging (NcoA) and the American Society on Aging (ASA) **March 16-19** at the Hilton Anaheim and the Anaheim Marriott in **Anaheim, CA**. For more information, go to www.agingconference.org or call 800/537-9728, ext. 9675. See also the AGING NETWORK NEWS section (above).

Senior Housing Operations & Financing Summit, sponsored by the World Research Group and the Wall Street Journal to optimize performance, and obtain capital for independent, assisted living, skilled nursing and CCRC properties **March 27-28** at Park Central New York in **New York, NY**. For more information, go to www.worldrg.com or call toll-free 800/647-7600.

Tools for Spiritual Care, an all-day seminar to explore various techniques for spiritual care through case studies sponsored by the Center for Spirituality and Aging and California Lutheran Homes **March 29** at the Villa Gardens Retirement Community in **Pasadena, CA** and **March 30** at Mt. Miguel Covenant Village in **Spring Valley, CA**. For more information, go to www.spiritualityandaging.org or call 714/239-6267.

Sixth Annual National Aging and Law Conference, sponsored by the AARP Foundation, the National Association of State Units on Aging (NASUA) and others, **April 19-23** at the Double Tree Hotel in **Arlington, VA**. For more information, go to www.aarp.org/nltp or call 202/434-2197.

2006 National Aging and Disability I&R/A Symposium, sponsored by the National Aging I&R Support Center and the National State Units on Aging (NASUA) to be held in conjunction with the Alliance of Information & Referral Systems (AIRA) Training and Education Conference **June 4-7** at the Hyatt Regency Milwaukee in **Milwaukee, WI**. For more information go to www.nasua.org/informationandreferral, call 202/898-2578 or

e-mail to glink@nasua.org.

Annual Research Meeting 2006 (the premier forum for health services research), sponsored by Academy Health **June 25-27** at the Washington State Convention & Trade Center in **Seattle, WA**. For more information, go to www.academyhealth.org/arm/abstracts.

30th Annual Summer School of Gerontology, sponsored by the South Carolina Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging **August 20-25** to provide education and training for professionals who work with the aging population and others interested in aging issues at Springmaid Beach, **Myrtle Beach, SC**. The lodging and meal costs of presenters, as well as limited travel costs, will be covered. For more information, call 803/734-9878 or e-mail to halljen@aging.sc.gov.

FOR-PROFIT TRAINING EVENTS/RESOURCES

The following information about for-profit training events and resources is presented as a public service for informational purposes only, and should not be interpreted as constituting OSA promotion or endorsement. OSA does not receive financial or any other benefit for providing this information.

For-Profit Training Events

How to Supervise People, a training event sponsored by Fred Pryor Seminars **April 17** at the Best Western Hotel Kalamazoo in **Kalamazoo**; **April 18** at the Grand Inn and Conference Center in **Grand Rapids**; **April 19** at the Quality Inn in **Lansing**; **April 20** at the Best Western Hotel Executive Plaza in **Ann Arbor**; **April 20** at the Holiday Inn in **Jackson**; **April 21** at the Hyatt Regency Hotel Dearborn in **Dearborn**; **April 21** at the Hilton Hotel Detroit/Troy in **Troy**; **April 24** at Stafford's Perry Hotel in **Petoskey**; **April 25** at the Holiday Inn in **Traverse City**; **April 26** at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel in **Saginaw**; and **April 27** at the Holiday Inn in **Flint**; For more information, go to www.pryor.com or call toll-free 800/556-2998.

Conflict Management Skills for Women, a training event sponsored by Skillpath Seminars **March 14** at the Park Place Hotel in **Traverse City**; **March 15** at the Four Points Hotel Saginaw in **Saginaw**; **April 17** at the Holiday Inn South in **Lansing**; and **April 18** at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in **Kalamazoo**. For more information, go to www.skillpath.com or call toll-free 800/873-7545.

CD Publications Launches Best of the Best in Aging Services

CD Publications announces that it will begin a feature in its twice-monthly publication for senior service providers entitled Aging News Alert that will highlight the "Best of the Best in Aging Services."

This item will appear once/month in Aging News Alert to feature organizations, service providers and individuals nominated by readers and aging service providers as being especially worthy of national recognition for their efforts, dedication and innovation in the field of aging services. Readers will be informed about the winners, and will be given contact information to contact them directly for more information about what works

and what doesn't work.

If you know of any organization, project or individual that deserves to be recognized in this way, call 301/588-6380, ext. 144 or e-mail to jrogers@cdpublications.com. For more information about Aging News Alert and other CD publications, call toll-free 800/666-6380.

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OTHER RESOURCES

State Offers Online Information about Energy Assistance Programs

For information about State of Michigan Energy Assistance Programs, go to www.michigan.gov/energyassistance.

This website contains information about a 2005 Michigan Home Heating Credit that can be obtained by senior adults, as well as information about weatherization and emergency heating relief through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), a federally funded program administered by the Michigan Department of Human Services (MDHS) to help low income households meet the high cost of home heating. LIHEAP is coordinated with the State Emergency Relief (SER) program.

This website also has FAQ links to some of the larger Michigan utility companies, and provides useful information about volunteer tax preparers, Deliverable Fuel Assistance, and Energy Direct, the energy collaboration to avoid utility shut-offs to Michigan Department of Human Services (MDHS) clients. In addition, it describes how citizens can obtain Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) Consumer Alerts and Brochures that provide important utility information, as well as information about how to arrange for direct payments to heat providers.

Senior Adults Can Claim a 2005 Michigan Home Heating Credit

For 2005, elders can obtain a state tax credit for their home heating costs by completing and filing a "2005 Michigan 1040CR-7" form for the Michigan Home Heating Credit. It is funded by federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program Grants to help low income families and senior adults pay their home heating costs.

To claim a Home Heating Credit, senior adults must own or rent the home where they live, and it must be located in Michigan. They must own or rent only one homestead at a time, and it must be their permanent home or the place where they plan to return whenever they go away. Those living in subsidized senior citizen apartments may qualify. However, a vacation home or income property does not qualify.

Senior adults must be the occupant, owner or renter of the homestead, and they must have owned or rented it for at least part of the year. Also, their income must be within income limits, as specified on the Home Heating Credit form.

If they have lived in a licensed care facility for the entire year, they are not eligible. These include adult foster care homes, licensed homes for the aged, and nursing homes.

If they lived in a licensed care facility for part of 2005, they can claim the credit for that portion of the year when they lived outside the facility (the number of days they owned or rented and occupied their homestead). Also, if a spouse died in 2005, the surviving spouse may file a joint return for 2005.

To obtain a tax credit, senior adults must complete and file a "2005 Michigan 1040CR-7 form. This form is available on the Michigan Department Treasury web sit at www.michigan.gov/treasury, or call 800/827-4000. In addition, commonly used forms and instructions are available at seven Treasury offices, Michigan Secretary of State branch offices, some post offices, and most public libraries and Family Independence Agency (FIA) branch offices.

The standard credit computation for the Home Heating Credit uses standard allowances established by law. The primary filer will be asked to provide his/her social security number, and report total household income from all sources, both taxable and non-taxable. Also, the credit must be reduced by 50 percent when heat is included in senior adult's rent, or is in someone else's name.

The deadline for filing 2005 Home Heating Credits is **September 30**, but to receive priority in processing, file before **April 15**. Credit claims must be mailed to the Michigan Department of Treasury, Lansing, MI 48956.

If senior adults need help completing the Home Heating Credit form, they can contact their local senior center to find out if there is a volunteer tax preparation program available. In addition, they can call 800/827-4000 24-hours/day to access the Michigan Tele-Help System. Tele-Help is an automated system of informative recordings about the income tax property tax credit and the home heating credit.

For more information, go to the new Department of Treasury "Home Heating" website, www.michigan.gov/heatingassistance or call 800/487-4000 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Monday through Friday to speak with a Treasury Department representative. Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing, or who have a speech impairment, can call 517/636-4999 (TTY).

NCEA Invites Participation in Live Web Cast

A free Web Cast about new state data on elder abuse, sponsored by the National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA) of the National Association of State Units on Aging (NASUA), will be offered 3:00 p.m. on **February 15**.

Data for the web cast was collected by state Adult Protective Services Programs across the country through a 2004 nationwide survey sponsored by the NCEA, the National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (NCPEA) and the National Adult Protective Services Association (NAPSA). It represents the most comprehensive and rigorous study to date on this topic.

The web cast will focus on what has been learned from the 2004 survey. Highlights will include national trends in elder abuse; types of elder abuse; victims of elder abuse; perpetrator relationships; interventions and outcomes; and elder abuse reporting. This data will be crucial for shining light on the nature and extent of elder abuse in the US; shaping future directions in research; and informing policy makers.

To register, go to www.visualwebcaster.com/event.asp?id=31874. Voice Over Internet Protocol will be used. Participants will need sound capability and Real Player or Windows Media Player Software to participate. A free download is available as part of the registration. Participants can e-mail questions to the speakers during the Web Cast.

For those unable to attend this live Web Cast, a taped replay will be available at the above registration website within 24 hours after completion of the Web Cast. Those without the technological capability to join the Web Cast can obtain e-mail to saravanis@nasua.org to request the website materials.

Civic Ventures Requests Nominations for The Purpose Prize

As the first of 77 million baby boomers turns age 60 this year, Civic Ventures, a nonprofit organization working to help America achieve the greatest return on the experience of its elder citizens, announces "The Purpose Prize."

Because many of the best ideas for social change come from people age 60 or older, the prize will be given to five elders who are taking on society's biggest challenges. It recognizes their passion and experience to discover new opportunities, create new programs, and make lasting changes.

This prize will involve five \$100,000 awards. They are investments in Americans, age 60 or older, whose creativity, talent and experience is transforming the way our nation addresses critical social problems. Sixty semi-finalists also will receive national recognition for their work. The first of five \$100,000 awards will be made in June.

For more information, or to nominate someone or apply yourself, go to www.leadwithexperience.org. The application deadline is **February 28**.

For answers to questions, call 415/222-7486 or e-mail to lpatti@civicventures.org.

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FEDERAL REGISTER (January 16-27)

HHS Encourages Early Registration for Grants.Gov

See the Federal Register dated **January 17** (Vol. 71, No. 10). Go to "Health and Human Services Department" and see "Notices." This notice from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) explains that federal grant applicants must complete a three-step registration process before applying for federal grant opportunities through Grants.gov. This notice explains the three-step process. Also, to facilitate the federal grant application process, and to help applicants meet application deadlines, this notice encourages prospective applicants to register early. Grants.gov is the federal government's free, single and secure website for finding and submitting applications electronically for federal grant funding. The 26 participating federal grant-making departments post funding opportunities and grant application materials on Grants.gov. An applicant must register with Grants.gov to protect the applicant and the applicant's information, and to assure federal agencies that they are interacting with officials authorized to submit applications for funding on behalf of applicant entities. It usually takes 3-5 days to complete the registration with Grants.gov. A webcast has been

scheduled for the end of January specifically to cover the Grants.gov registration process. Interested organizations may sign up for the webcast by going to www.grants.gov. For more information, go to www.grants.gov, call 800/518-4726 or e-mail to support@grants.gov.

HHS Updates Poverty Guidelines for 2006

See the Federal Register dated **January 24** (Vol. 71, No. 15). Go to "Health and Human Services Department" and see "Notices." This notice from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), effective immediately, provides an update of the HHS poverty guidelines to account for last calendar year's increase in prices, as measured by the Consumer Price Index. These are 2006 poverty guidelines for the 48 contiguous states, including Michigan, that are used as an eligibility criterion for the Community Service Block Grant Program, and a number of other federal programs. For a family of one, the poverty guideline is \$9,800; for two it is \$13,200; for three, \$16,600; for four, \$20,000; for five, \$23,400; for six, \$26,800; for seven, \$30,200; and for eight, \$33,600. For more information, go to <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/> or call 202/690-7507.

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LEGISLATION

The following bills are listed for informational/educational purposes only. The list does not constitute OSA support or endorsement. Nor does it indicate the critical bills OSA considers to be of priority. All of this information is current, as of the date of this issue. But it is subject to change at any time through legislative action.

For more information about the content and legislative history of a particular bill, go to www.legislature.mi.gov (the Michigan Legislature website) and enter the bill number in the box under "Legislative Bill Search." Then click on "Go!" and the status page of the bill will appear with current information about the bill. Click on a "PDF" or "TXT" box for a copy of the latest version of the bill, or a House or Senate analysis of the bill.

The Michigan Legislature website (www.michiganlegislature.org) is a free service of the Legislative Internet Technology Team in cooperation with the Michigan Legislative Council, the Michigan House of Representatives, and the Michigan Senate. Also, call the Michigan Law Library at 517/373-0630 for legal research questions.

If you have a question or opinion about any of these bills, contact your state legislator. Also, e-mail comments to **OSA Director Sharon Gire** at osadirector@michigan.gov, or mail them to her at OSA (P.O. Box 30676 in Lansing, 48909-8176).

New House Bills

(January 16-January 28)

House Bill (HB) 5555 of 2006

Income tax; credit; credit to fully fund home heating credit; provide for. Amends Public Act (PA) 281 of 1967. Sponsored by **Rep. Joel Sheltrown** (D-West Branch) and co-sponsored by 19 others. Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Technology 1-18-06.

House Bill (HB) 5556 of 2006

Income tax; home heating credit; home heating credit income threshold; increase. Amends Public Act (PA) 281 of 1967. Sponsored by **Rep. Kathy Angerer** (D-Dundee) and co-sponsored by 29 others. Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Technology 1-18-06.

House Bill (HB) 5569 of 2006

Retirement; pension oversight; task force to investigate reform issues relating to amount of pension; create. Creates new act. Sponsored by **Rep. Andy Dillon** (D-Redford) and co-sponsored by 13 others. Referred to the House Committee on Appropriations 1-19-06.

House Bill (HB) 5588 of 2006

Insurance; essential; consumer awareness program; provide for. Amends Public Act (PA) 218 of 1956. Sponsored by **Rep. Barbara Farrah** (D-Southgate) and co-sponsored by 20 others. Referred to the House Committee on Insurance 1-24-06.

House Bill (HB) 5589 of 2006

Insurance; essential; community education program; provide for. Amends Public Act (PA) 218 of 1956. Sponsored by **Rep. LaMar Lemmons, Jr.** (D-Detroit) and co-sponsored by 24 others. Referred to the House Committee on Insurance 1-24-06.

House Bill (HB) 5590 of 2006

Insurance; other; office of public insurance counsel; create. Amends Public Act (PA) 218 of 1956. Sponsored by **Rep. Gabe Leland** (D-Detroit) and co-sponsored by 23 others. Referred to the House Committee on Insurance 1-24-06.

House Bill (HB) 5592 of 2006

Consumer protection; unfair trade practices; transaction or conduct permitted by statute; clarify applicability of Michigan consumer protection act. Amends Public Act (PA) 331 of 1976. Sponsored by **Rep. LaMar Lemmons III** (D-Detroit) and co-sponsored by 21 others. Referred to the House Committee on Insurance 1-24-06.

House Bill (HB) 5595 of 2006

Insurance; no fault; explanation of Michigan catastrophic claims association assessment; require in certain cases. Amends Public Act (PA) 218 of 1956. Sponsored by **Rep. Glen S. Anderson** (D-Westland) and co-sponsored by 18 others. Referred to the House Committee on Insurance 1-24-06.

House Bill (HB) 5599 of 2006

Sales tax; exemptions; home heating fuels; exempt. Amends Public Act (PA) 167 of 1933. Sponsored by **Rep. Jim Marleau** (R-Lake Orion) and co-sponsored by 35 others. Referred to the House Committee on Tax Policy 1-24-06.

House Bill (HB) 5602 of 2006

Probate; wills and estates; rights of inheritance of adopted individuals and adoptive and natural parents; remove conflict between EPIC and adoption code. Amends Public Act (PA) 288 of 1939. Sponsored by **Rep. Tonya Schuitmaker** (R-Lawton) and co-sponsored by two others. Referred to the House Committee on Judiciary 1-24-06.

House Bill (HB) 5608 of 2006

Insurance; other; interstate insurance product (including life and LTC insurance product) regulation compact; enact. Creates new act. Sponsored by **Rep. Barbara Farrah** (D-

Southgate) and co-sponsored by 26 others. Referred to the House Committee on Insurance 1-24-06.

House Bill (HB) 5610 of 2006

Income tax; credit; contributions to (nonprofit) community Housing development organizations; provide for credit. Amends Public Act (PA) 281 of 1967. Sponsored by **Rep. Chris Kolb** (D-Ann Arbor) and co-sponsored by six others. Referred to the House Committee on Tax Policy 1-24-06.

New Senate Bills

(January 16-January 28)

Senate Bill (SB) 979 of 2006

Sales tax; exemptions; allowable aggregate of retail sales made by a nonprofit organization for exemption; increase. Amends Public Act (PA) 167 of 1933. Sponsored by **Sen. Jason Allen** (R-Traverse City) and co-sponsored by nine others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance 1-24-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 982

Recreation; outdoor activities; outdoor fitness award; create. Amends Public Act (PA) 451 of 1994. Sponsored by **Sen. Patricia Birkholz** (R-Saugatuck) and co-sponsored by eight others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy 1-24-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 985 of 2006

Human services; medical services; incentives to encourage medical assistance recipients to make lifestyle choices that promote or maintain good health; establish. Amends Public Act (PA) 280 of 1939. Sponsored by **Sen. Bill Hardiman** (R-Kentwood) and co-sponsored by 11 others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy 1-24-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 986 of 2006

Human services; medical services; personal responsibility agreement; create and offer to medical assistance recipients. Amends Public Act (PA) 280 of 1939. Sponsored by **Sen. Mike Bishop** (R-Rochester) and co-sponsored by 10 others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy 1-24-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 987 of 2006

Human services; medical services; verification process for medical assistance eligibility; revise. Amends Public Act (PA) 280 of 1939. Sponsored by **Sen. Jason Allen** (R-Traverse City) and co-sponsored by 10 others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy 1-24-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 988 of 2006

Insurance; essential; rate rollback; require. Amends Public Act (PA) 218 of 1956. Sponsored by **Sen. Samuel Thomas III** (D-Detroit) and co-sponsored by 12 others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Banking and Financial Institutions 1-24-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 989 of 2006

Insurance; pools; Michigan basic property insurance association; require certain discounts and provide for general amendments. Amends Public Act (PA) 218 of 1956. Sponsored by **Sen. Irma Clark-Coleman** (D-Detroit) and co-sponsored by 12 others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Banking and Financial Institutions 1-24-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 990 of 2006

Insurance; property and casualty; Michigan auto insurance placement facility rates; provide for amendments (including discounts for seniors). Amends Public Act (PA) 218 of 1956. Sponsored by **Sen. Martha Scott** (D-Highland Park) and co-sponsored by 12 others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Banking and Financial Institutions 1-24-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 991 of 2006

Insurance; property and casualty; adjustment (reduction, refund) to premium; allow under certain circumstances. Amends Public Act (PA) 218 of 1956. Sponsored by **Sen. Martha Scott** (D-Highland Park) and co-sponsored by 12 others.

Senate Bill (SB) 993 of 2006

Insurance; essential; consumer awareness program; provide for. Amends Public Act (PA) 218 of 1956. Sponsored by **Sen. Dennis Olshove** (D-Warren) and co-sponsored by 12 others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Banking and Financial Institutions 1-24-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 995 of 2006

Consumer protection; unfair trade practices; transaction or conduct permitted by statute; clarify applicability of Michigan consumer protection act. Amends Public Act (PA) 331 of 1976. Sponsored by **Sen. Deborah Cherry** (D-Burton) and co-sponsored by 12 others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Banking and Financial Institutions 1-24-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 998 of 2006

Insurance; other; office of public insurance counsel; create. Amends Public Act (PA) 218 of 1956. Sponsored by **Sen. Deborah Cherry** (D-Burton) and co-sponsored by 12 others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Banking and Financial Institutions 1-24-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 999 of 2006

Insurance; no-fault; explanation of Michigan catastrophic claims association assessment; require in certain cases. Amends Public Act (PA) 218 of 1956. Sponsored by **Sen. Mark Schauer** (D-Battle Creek) and co-sponsored by 12 others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Banking and Financial Institutions 1-24-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 1001 of 2006

Insurance; essential; community education program; provide for. Amends Public Act (PA) 218 of 1956. Sponsored by **Sen. Mark Schauer** (D-Battle Creek) and co-sponsored by 12 others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Banking and Financial Institutions 1-24-06.

Bills that have Moved
(Since September 1, 2005)

See Changes (since January 20, 2005) to **House Bill (HB) 4670**, **House Bill (HB) 5387 of 2005**, **Senate Bill (SB) 621 of 2005** and **Senate Bill (SB) 622 of 2005**.

House Bill (HB) 4074 of 2005

This bill, with HB 5314, would remove community college employees hired after January 1, 2006 from the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System, and would

revise the definition of “eligible employees” to include administrators or faculty employed at a community college on a part-time basis. Amends Public Act (PA) 156 of 1967. Sponsored by **Rep. Bruce Caswell** (R-Hillsdale). Referred to the House Committee on Higher Education 1-27-05. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analyses 3-18-05 and 11-28-05. Passed by the House and given immediate effect 12-8-05. Referred to the Senate Committee on Education 12-13-05.

House Bill (HB) 4337 of 2005

Income tax; exemptions; caring for senior citizen in home; provide for additional exemption. Amends Public Act (PA) 281 of 1967. Sponsored by **Rep. Rick Shaffer** (R-Three Rivers) and co-sponsored by five others. Referred to the House Committee on Tax Policy 2-17-05. Motion to discharge committee approved 12-1-05. Referred to the House Committee on Senior Health, Security, and Retirement 12-1-05.

House Bill (HB) 4606 of 2005

The bill would amend the Public Health Code. Currently the code prohibits a health care facility (i.e., a hospital or nursing home) from giving a copy of a patient’s or resident’s medical record to a third party without prior authorization from the patient or resident. The bill would retain this restriction on the release of a person’s medical information except as otherwise permitted or required under the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA). The Public Health Code also allows a patient or resident to refuse the release of personal and medical records to a person outside the health facility or agency except as required because of a transfer to another health care facility or as required by law or third party payment contract. The bill would allow the release of these records as permitted or required under HIPPA. Furthermore, the Public Health Code entitles a patient or resident to inspect, or receive for a reasonable fee, a copy of his or her own medical record. The bill would specify that this would be done in accordance with the Medical Records Access Act. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Stephen Adamini** (D-Marquette) and co-sponsored by one other. Referred to the House Committee on Health Policy 4-13-05. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analyses 10-17-05 and 10-24-05. House substitute bill adopted 10-25-05. Passed by the House and given immediate effect 10-26-05. Referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy 10-27-05.

House Bill (HB) 4670 of 2005

This bill would amend the Public Health Code to allow a retired physician to obtain a volunteer license to treat indigent and needy individuals, or those in medically underserved areas. Specifically, an individual who was retired from the active practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine and surgery, and who wished to donate his or her expertise for the medical care and treatment of indigent and needy individuals in underserved areas of the state, could obtain a special volunteer license to engage in the practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine and surgery by submitting an application to the applicable board. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Gary Newell** (R-Saranac) and co-sponsored by 22 others. Referred to the House Committee on House Policy 4-26-05. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 5-23-05. House Substitute Bill adopted 11-10-05. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 11-28-05. Passed by the House and given immediate effect 11-29-05. Referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy 11-30-05. Senate Fiscal Analysis 1-25-06. Reported favorably with Senate Substitute Bill 1-31-06. Referred to the Senate Committee of the Whole 1-31-06.

House Bill (HB) 4751 of 2005

This bill would amend the Social Welfare Act, which deals with the Medicaid program, to allow Medicaid-eligible individuals to receive services related to care (e.g., assisted living) provided in an adult foster care facility licensed under the Adult Foster Care Facility Licensing Act if certain conditions are met. The Michigan Department of Community Services (DCH) would be required to seek a waiver from the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to provide adult foster care-related services. Amends Public Act (PA) 280 of 1939. Sponsored by **Rep. Richard Ball** (R-Laingsburg) and co-sponsored by 13 others. Referred to the House Committee on Family and Children Services 5-10-05. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 10-17-05. Reported with recommendation with a House substitute bill 11-1-05. Referred to second reading 11-1-05.

House Bill (HB) 4773 of 2005

Torts; product liability; immunity from liability for drugs that have been approved by federal food and drug administration; rescind. Amends Public Act (PA) 236 of 1961. Sponsored by **Rep. Dianne Byrum** (D-Onondaga) and co-sponsored by 37 others. Referred to the House Committee on Commerce 5-11-05. Notice given to discharge committee 9-7-05. Motion to discharge committee approved 9-8-05. Placed on second reading 9-8-05.

House Bill (HB) 4789 of 2005

This bill would amend the Public Health Code to address the use of “dining assistants” by nursing homes. It would allow nursing homes to use dining assistants to feed residents who need assistance or encouragement with eating and drinking but do not have complicated feeding problems, such as difficulty swallowing, recurrent lung aspirations, and tube or parenteral feedings. The use of a dining assistant would be based on a charge nurse’s assessment of the resident and that resident’s most recent plan of care. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by Rep. **Barb Vander Veen** (R-Allendale) and co-sponsored by 10 others. Referred to the House Committee on Senior Health, Security, and Retirement 5-17-05. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 9-27-05. House substitute bill adopted 10-18-05. Passed by the House and given immediate effect 10-19-05. Referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy 10-20-05.

House Bill (HB) 4792 of 2005

This bill would amend the Public Health Code to require that the Department of Community Health (DCH) transmit to a nursing home a written or electronic copy of the results of each visit and survey conducted within 10 business days after the visit. Within 24 hours after receiving the survey report, or within 24 hours after receiving notice that the department has approved a nursing home’s plan of correction, the nursing home would have to post the report in a conspicuous place in the home for public review. Within 30 days after the report or correction plan is posted, the nursing home would have to notify its residents it had been received and was posted within the nursing home, and that a summary was available through the Internet or on the DCH website. A nursing home could satisfy the notification by including a notification in a monthly newsletter or other written documentation, distributed to the resident, the resident’s family, or a designated representative. If the survey report or plan of correction includes an immediate jeopardy citation, the nursing home would be required to include a description of the citation and a description of how the situation was corrected. If the department issues a notice of an immediate jeopardy situation to a nursing home, then the nursing home would be required to post the notice, with the nursing home’s plan to rectify the situation, immediately after the removal of the immediate jeopardy situation.

The notice would have to be placed in a conspicuous place for public view in the nursing home for not less than seven days. If the immediate jeopardy situation results in serious injury, or a change in the health status of a resident or residents within the nursing home, the home would be required to immediately notify the resident's family, or a designated representative, of the immediate jeopardy situation. In addition, the bill would require that, before renewing a license, MDCH review the most recent inspection, survey and evaluation of that facility, and any written determination made concerning a complaint filed within the previous two years. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Paula Zelenko** (D-Burton) and co-sponsored by two others. Referred to the House Committee on Senior Health, Security, and Retirement 5-17-05. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 10-10-05. House substitute bill adopted 10-18-05. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 10-19-05. Passed by the House and given immediate effect 10-19-05. Referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy 10-20-05.

House Bill (HB) 4811 of 2005

Torts; liability; liability suits brought against drug manufacturers for drugs that have been approved by federal food and drug administration; allow. Amends Public Act (PA) 236 of 1961. Sponsored by **Rep. Leon Drolet** (R-Clinton Township) and co-sponsored by three others. Referred to the House Committee on Commerce 5-19-05. Notice given to discharge committee 9-7-05. Motion to discharge committee approved 9-8-05. Placed on second reading 9-8-05.

House Bill (HB) 5071 of 2005

Consumer protection; unfair trade practices; liability for inaccurate representations concerning risks of certain drugs, medications, and supplements; clarify. Amends Public Act (PA) 331 of 1976. Sponsored by **Rep. Marie Donigan** (D-Royal Oak) and co-sponsored by four others. Referred to the House Committee on Commerce 7-27-05. Notice given to discharge committee 9-7-05. Motion to discharge committee approved 9-8-05. Placed on second reading 9-8-05.

House Bill (HB) 5081 of 2005

This bill would permit an individual who is unable to write to use his or her fingerprints as a written signature. That is, visible fingerprints would be included as a "paper mark." Amends RS 1 of 1846 (MCL 8.3q). Sponsored by **Rep. Leon Drolet** (R-Clinton Township). Referred to the House Committee on Government Relations 8-10-05. Notice given to discharge committee 8-31-05. Motion to discharge committee approved by the House 9-6-05. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 9-7-05. Re-referred to the House Committee on Governmental Operations 9-28-05.

House Bill (HB) 5139 of 2005

Civil procedure, statute of limitations; drug product liability cases previously prohibited because of FDA approval defense; allow to be commenced within 3 years of repeal of defense. Amends PA 236 of 1961. It is tie barred to HB 4773 which means neither can take effect unless both do). Sponsored by **Rep. Gary McDowell** (D-Rudyard) and co-sponsored by 10 others. Referred to the House Committee on Commerce 9-7-05. Notice given to discharge committee 8-31-05. Motion to discharge committee approved 9-6-05. Placed on second reading 9-6-05.

House Bill (HB) 5166 of 2005

This bill would amend the Adult Foster Care Facility Licensing Act to require background checks on new employees of adult foster care facilities. Amends Public Act

(PA) 218 of 1979. It is tie-barred with HB 5168 (which means neither can take effect unless both do). Sponsored by **Rep. Gary Newell** (R-Saranac) and co-sponsored by 57 others. Referred to the House Committee on Senior Health, Security, and Retirement 9-13-05. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analyses 11-28-05 and 12-6-05. House substitute bill adopted 12-6-05. Passed by the House and given immediate effect 12-6-05. Referred to the Senate Committee on Senior Citizens and Veterans Affairs 12-7-05.

House Bill (HB) 5167 of 2005

This bill would amend the Public Health Code to apply background check requirements to applicants for initial licensure or registration in health occupations. The bill would impose a nominal fee, beginning January 1, 2006, not to exceed \$2 for the processing of criminal history background checks for applicants for initial licensure or registration and renewals, and the applicants would be responsible for any charges for the criminal history check. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Michael Murphy** (D- Lansing) and co-sponsored by 43 others. Referred to the House Committee on Senior Health, Security, and Retirement 9-13-05. House Fiscal Agency(HFA) Legislative Analyses 11-28-05 and 12-6-05. Passed by the House and given immediate effect 12-6-05. Referred to the Senate Committee on Senior Citizens and Veterans Affairs 12-7-05.

House Bill (HB) 5168 of 2005

This bill would add a new section to the Public Health Code to require background checks on new employees of a health facility or agency (a nursing home, county medical facility, hospice, hospital that provides swing bed services, home for the aged, or home health agency). Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. It is tie-barred with HB 5448, SB 621 and SB 622 (which means none of them can take effect unless all of them do). Sponsored by **Rep. Paula Zelenko** (D-Burton) and co-sponsored by 50 others. Referred to the House Committee on Senior Health, Security, and Retirement 9-13-05. House Fiscal Agency(HFA) Legislative Analyses 11-28-05 and 12-6-05. House substitute bill adopted and amended 12-6-05. Passed by the House and given immediate effect 12-6-05. Referred to the Senate Committee on Senior Citizens and Veterans Affairs 12-7-05.

House Bill (HB) 5183 of 2005

This bill would amend the Public Health Code to require a nursing home, county medical care facility, or home for the aged to provide each employee who provides direct services to patients or residents with a written notice of its substance abuse policy, or a copy of that policy if the facility requires employees to submit to substance screening or abuse testing, whether random or otherwise, as a condition of employment. The notice would be provided upon hiring. If a notice of the policy is provided in lieu of a copy, the notice will contain the following: (a) Circumstances under which an employee may be required to submit to a test. (b) Consequences for refusing to submit to a test. (c) Procedures for challenging the accuracy of the test. (d) Notice and testing requirements. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Joe Hune** (R-Hamburg) and co-sponsored by three others. Referred to the House Committee on Senior Health, Security, and Retirement 9-15-05. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 9-27-05. House substitute bill adopted 10-18-05. House Fiscal Analysis (HFA) 10-19-05. Passed by the House and given immediate effect 10-19-05. Referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy 10-20-05.

House Bill (HB) 5198 of 2005

This bill would amend Public Act 259 of 1909, which pertains to judgments of divorce and judgments of separate maintenance, to clarify that each judgment of divorce or judgment of separation would have to determine all rights, including any contingent rights of the parties regarding any vested pension, annuity, or retirement benefit; any accumulated contributions in any pension, annuity, or retirement system; and, in accordance with the revised Statutes of 1846, any unvested pension, annuity or retirement benefits. Sponsored by **Rep. Tonya Schuitmaker** (R-Lawton) and co-sponsored by 58 others. Referred to the House Committee on Judiciary 9-21-05. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analyses 12-5-05 and 12-12-05. Substitute bill adopted by the House 12-13-05. Passed by the House and given immediate effect 12-13-05. Referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary 1-11-06.

House Bill (HB) 5325 of 2005

This bill would amend the Public Health Code to require a hospital, during flu season, to inform each elderly person admitted to the hospital for a period of 24 hours or more that the influenza vaccine is available. This would apply unless a flu vaccine shortage has been declared, causing a hospital to have an inadequate supply in stock. If an elderly person requests to be vaccinated, and a physician, physician's assistant, or certified nurse practitioner determines that the vaccine is in the patient's best interest, the hospital would have to administer the vaccination to the elderly person before he or she is discharged, and document the vaccination in the patient's medical record. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Kevin Green** (R-Wyoming) and co-sponsored by one other. Referred to the House Committee on Senior Health, Security, and Retirement 10-18-02. Referred with recommendation without amendment(s) 11-1-05. Referred to second reading 11-1-05.

House Bill (HB) 5375 of 2005

This bill would add a new section to the Public Health Code to specify that a physician who provides medical care under a special volunteer license, granted under provisions of House Bill 4670, would not be liable in a civil action for personal injury or death that was proximately caused by the professional negligence or malpractice of the physician in providing the care. Civil immunity would only apply if the care was provided at a health facility or agency that provided at least 75 percent of its care annually to medically indigent individuals, and the physician did not receive, and did not intend to receive, compensation for providing the care. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Gary Newell** (R-Saranac) and co-sponsored by 17 others. Referred to the House Committee on Judiciary 10-26-05. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analyses 11-07-05 and 11-28-05. Passed by the House and given immediate effect 11-29-05. Referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary 11-30-05. Senate Fiscal Analyses 12-6-05 and 12-7-05. Referred to the Senate Committee of the Whole 12-7-05. Senate Fiscal Analysis 12-16-05.

House Bill (HB) 5387 (2005)

This bill would create a 13-member Catastrophic Medical Coverage Task Force to conduct a study on whether a statewide catastrophic health care coverage pool is an appropriate means of providing all state residents with coverage for catastrophic health claims. The task force would be created within the Office of Financial and Insurance Services (OFIS), and OFIS would provide technical assistance, including actuarial services. The task force would be required to report to the Legislature within one year after the bill's effective date on the findings and recommendations resulting from its study. Amends Public Act (PA) 218 of 1956. Sponsored by **Rep. Andy Dillon** (D-Redford) and co-sponsored by 15 others. Referred to the House Committee on

Insurance 11-1-05. Reported with recommendation with House Substitute Bill. Referred to second reading.

House Bill (HB) 5448 of 2005

This bill would amend the mental health code to require background checks on new employees of psychiatric facilities or immediate care facilities for people with mental retardation. Amends Public Act (PA) 258 of 1974. It is tie-barred with HB 5168, SB 621 and SB 622 (which means none of them can take effect unless all of them do).

Sponsored by **Rep. Barb Vander Veen** (R-Allendale) and co-sponsored by 47 others. Referred to the House Committee on Health Policy 11-29-05. Re-assigned to the House Committee on Senior Health, Security, and Retirement 11-30-05. House Fiscal Agency (HFA) Legislative Analysis 12-6-05. House substitute bill adopted 12-6-05. Passed by the House and given immediate effect 12-6-05. Referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy 12-7-05.

House Bill (HB) 5487 of 2005

Property tax; exemptions; tax exemption for certain nonprofit housing corporations and nonprofit corporations with a license to solicit charitable donations; provide for. Amends Public Act (PA) 206 of 1893. Sponsored by **Rep. Joe Hune** (R-Hamburg) and co-sponsored by one other. Referred to the House Committee on Local Government and Urban Policy 12-7-05. Motion to discharge committee approved 12-13-05. House substitute bill adopted 12-13-05. Passed by the House with immediate effect 12-13-05. Referred to the Senate Committee on Local, Urban and State Affairs 1-11-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 267 of 2005

Appropriations; community health; Department of Community Health; provide for fiscal year 2005-2006. Creates new appropriations act. Sponsored by **Sen. Deborah Cherry** (D-Burton) and co-sponsored by one other. Referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations 3-2-05. Senate Fiscal Analyses 6-6-05 and 6-9-05. Reported by the Senate Committee on the Whole favorably with Senate substitute bill and amendments. Senate substitute bill concurred in by the Senate as amended 6-14-05. Passed by the Senate 6-14-05. Referred to the House Committee on Appropriations 6-16-05. Senate Fiscal Analysis 6-22-05. House substitute bill adopted by the Senate 6-28-05. Passed by the House 6-28-05. Returned to the Senate 6-28-05. House substitute bill nonconcurred in by the Senate 6-30-05. Referred to Conference Committee 9-13-05. Conference Report 9-20-05. Conference Report received by the Senate 10-11-05. Referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations 10-11-05. Senate reconsidered nonconcurrence with House Bill 10-11-05. For final disposition of budget, see House Bill (HB) 4831, now Public Act (PA) 154 of 2005.

Senate Bill (SB) 334 of 2005

This bill would amend the Customer Choice and Electricity Reliability Act (the act) to create the Low Income Energy Assistance and Efficiency Program within the Public Service Commission (PSC); require the PSC to implement a low income energy assistance and efficiency factor that would be a nonbypassable surcharge payable by every customer receiving a distribution service from a natural gas or electric utility with rates regulated by the PSC; create the Low Income Energy Assistance and Efficiency Fund within the State Treasury, and require money collected through the surcharge to be deposited into the fund; allow the PSC, in consultation with the Attorney General, to authorize the State Treasurer to make disbursements from the fund through a grant process to any entity that provided assistance to utility customers; and repeal Section 6c of the act which allows the PSC to approve energy conservation programs for

residential customers, and fund those programs through general utility rates. Amends Public Act (PA) 3 of 1939. Sponsored by **Sen. Bruce Patterson** (R-Canton) and co-sponsored by 15 others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Technology and Energy 3-22-05. Senate Fiscal Analyses 4-27-05 and 5-24-05. Referred to the Senate Committee of the Whole with Senate substitute bill 5-24-05. Senate Fiscal Analysis 5-25-05. Referred to the Senate Committee on Government Operations 9-14-05.

Senate Bill (SB) 621 of 2005

This bill would amend provisions of the Public Health Code to repeal and replace provisions that disqualify a person from employment with a nursing home for certain convictions, and require criminal history checks of applicants for employment. It would expand the crimes covered by the law, include drug misdemeanors; expand the types of facilities that must conduct background checks; require annual background checks; and increase sanctions. It would apply to nursing homes, county medical care facilities, hospices, hospitals that provide swing bed services, homes for the aged and home health agencies. It would prohibit individuals who would have direct access or provide direct services to patients or residents in those facilities or agencies from working, contracting, or being granted clinical privileges with the facilities or agencies, if they were convicted of or subject to any of the following: a felony within 15 years immediately preceding the date of application; a misdemeanor involving controlled substances, abuse, neglect, assault, battery, criminal sexual conduct or a state or federal crime that was substantially similar within 10 years immediately preceding the date of application; a relevant crime under provisions of federal law that excludes certain individuals and entities from participation in Medicare and state health care programs; an order or disposition under sections of the Mental Health Code, Estates and Protected Individuals Code, and the Code of Criminal Procedure; or a substantiated finding of neglect, abuse, or misappropriation of property by a state or federal agency pursuant to an investigation conducted in accordance with federal law. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. It is tie-barred with HB 5168, HB 5448 and SB 622 (which means none of them can take effect unless all of them do). Sponsored by **Sen. Patricia L. Birkholz** (R-Saugatuck) and co-sponsored by six others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Senior Citizens and Veterans Affairs 6-21-05. Senate Fiscal Analyses 11-29-05 and 12-7-05. Senate substitute bill concurred in 12-13-05. Amendments adopted 12-13-05. Passed by the Senate 12-13-05. Referred to the House Committee on Senior Health, Security, and Retirement 12-13-05. Reported with recommendation with House Substitute Bill 1-24-06. Referred to second reading 1-24-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 622 of 2005

This bill would amend provisions of the Adult Foster Care Facility Licensing Act to repeal and replace provisions that disqualify a person from employment for certain convictions and that require criminal history checks of applicants for employment. The bill includes proposals pertaining to employment in an adult foster care facility that are consistent with those proposed in Senate Bill (SB) 621 regarding employment in a nursing home, county medical care facility, hospice, hospital that provides swing bed services, home for the aged, or home health agency. Amends Public Act (PA) 218 of 1979. It is tie-barred with HB 5168, HB 5448 and SB 621 (which means none of them can take effect unless all of them do). Sponsored by **Sen. Tony Stamas** (R-Midland) and co-sponsored by six others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Senior Citizens and Veterans Affairs 6-21-05. Senate Fiscal Analysis 11-29-05 and 12-7-05. Senate substitute bill concurred in 12-13-05. Amendments adopted 12-13-05. Passed by the Senate 12-13-05. Referred to the House Committee on Senior Health, Security, and Retirement 12-13-05. Reported with recommendation with House Substitute Bill 1-24-

06. Referred to second reading 1-24-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 712 2005

This bill would amend the Michigan Penal Code to allow recreational card playing at nonresidential senior centers. Currently Chapter 44 of the code, which regulates gambling, does not apply to card playing at senior citizen housing facilities. The bill would extend that exemption to senior centers that are not housing facilities. Amends Public Act (PA) 328 of 1931. Sponsored by **Sen. Cameron Brown** (R-Sturgis). Referred to the Senate Committee on Senior Citizens and Veterans Affairs 8-31-05. Senate Fiscal Analyses 10-19-05 and 11-1-05. Substitute Bill concurred in by the Senate 11-1-05. Passed by the Senate 11-3-05. Referred to the House Committee on Judiciary 11-3-05.

2005-2006 Public Acts

Public Act (PA) 24 of 2005

House Bill (HB) 4188 of 2005

This bill amends the General Property Tax Act to increase from \$25,000 to \$35,000 the maximum household income of a taxpayer 62 years old, or older, who may defer the collection of summer property taxes, and to remove the income limit for other taxpayers eligible for the summer tax collection deferral. It amends Public Act (PA) 206 of 1893. Sponsored by **Rep. Tory Rocca** (R-Sterling Heights) and co-sponsored by 72 others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 5-23-05, and assigned PA 24 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 72 of 2005

House Bill (HB) 4434 of 2005

This bill amends the Public Health Code to provide that pharmacies that shared a real-time, online database or other equivalent means of communication, or pharmacies that transferred prescriptions pursuant to a written contract for centralized prescription processing services, would not have to follow the procedure established in the Code to refill a copy of a prescription from another pharmacy. It amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Scott Hummel** (R-DeWitt) and co-sponsored by 82 others, this bill was tie-barred with SB 352 (which meant neither could take effect unless both did). It was **approved by Gov. Granholm 7-19-05, and assigned PA 72 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 73 of 2005

Senate Bill (SB) 352 of 2005

This bill amends the Public Health Code to allow a pharmacy to perform centralized prescription processing services or outsource those services to another pharmacy if certain conditions are met. It amends Public Act 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Sen. Bill Hardiman** (R-Kentwood) and co-sponsored by 23 others, this bill was tie-barred with HB 4434 (which meant neither could take effect unless both did). It was **approved by Gov. Granholm 8-31-05, and assigned PA 73 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 85 of 2005

House Bill (HB) 4405 of 2005

This bill amends the Public Health Code to eliminate the authority of a disciplinary subcommittee to impose sanctions against a pharmacist for employing the mail to sell, distribute, or deliver a drug that requires a prescription when the prescription for the drug is received by mail. It amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep.**

Gretchen Whitmer (D-East Lansing) and co-sponsored by 63 others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 7-20-05, and assigned PA 85 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 109 of 2005

House Bill (HB) 4436 of 2005

Appropriations; zero budget; supplemental appropriations; provide for fiscal year 2004-2005. This bill increases private funds authorization for OSA \$75,000 to recognize private contributions for administering the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program for Seniors, or Project FRESH. Federal funds support the food costs, and the administrative costs must be supported by the state and other contributors. It creates a new appropriations act. Sponsored by **Rep. Scott Hummel** (R-DeWitt), it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 9-15-05, and assigned PA 109 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 114 of 2005

Senate Bill (SB) 348 of 2005

The General Property Tax Act requires local tax collecting units that collect a summer property tax to defer the collection, at the taxpayer's request, until the following February 15 for the principal residence of taxpayers with a household income of \$35,000 or less. To be eligible for the deferment, a taxpayer must be totally and permanently disabled, blind, paraplegic, quadriplegic, or an eligible serviceperson or an eligible veteran (or be the widow or widower of such a person). The deferment is also available to taxpayers who are at least 62 years of age, or the unremarried surviving spouse of a person who was at least 62 years of age at time of death. This bill eliminates the income requirement for these taxpayers, except for taxpayers who are at least 62 years of age, or the unremarried surviving spouse of a person who was at least 62 years of age at the time of death. For those taxpayers, the income threshold will increase to \$37,500 for the 2006 tax year and to \$40,000 for the 2007 tax year and beyond. It amends Public Act (PA) 206 of 1893. Sponsored by **Sen. Nancy Cassis** (R- Novi) and co-sponsored by four others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 9-21-05, and assigned PA 114 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 147 of 2005

Senate Bill (SB) 271 of 2005

Appropriations; Family Independence Agency (now the Department of Human Services); provide for fiscal year 2005-2006. Creates a new appropriations act. Sponsored by **Sen. Martha Scott** (D-Detroit) and co-sponsored by one other, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 10-5-05 with line-items vetoed, and assigned PA 147 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 154 of 2005

House Bill (HB) 4831 OF 2005

Appropriations; other; zero budget appropriations bill; provide for fiscal years 2005 and 2006. Creates a new appropriations act. Sponsored by **Rep. Scott Hummel** (R-DeWitt), it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 10-5-05 with line items vetoed, and assigned PA 154 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 161 of 2005

House Bill (HB) 4996 OF 2005

Under provisions of the Public Health Code, dental hygienists, under the supervision of a dentist, can now provide dental hygiene services to patients who have not first been examined by a dentist as part of a program for "dentally underserved" patients

conducted by a local, state, or federal grantee health agency. This bill amends the Public Health Code to revise the criteria for designation as a grantee health agency to include, for example, a public or nonprofit entity, or a school or nursing home that administers a program of dental care to a dentally underserved population. It amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Barb Vander Veen** (R-Allendale) and co-sponsored by 36 others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 10-4-05, and assigned PA 161 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 187 of 2005
House Bill (HB) 5055 OF 2005

This bill modifies the nursing home and hospital Quality Assurance Assessment Programs (QAAPs) to extend sunsets, reflect the amount of tax retained by the State, and changes the way the nursing home QAAP is assessed. The QAAP includes county-owned nursing homes for the first time. It amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Bruce Caswell** (R-Hillsdale), it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 10-27-05, and assigned PA 187 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 338 of 2005
Senate Bill (SB) 529 OF 2005

This bill would make homestead facilities eligible for residential tax abatements under the Neighborhood Enterprise Zone Act. Currently the act applies only to newly constructed and rehabilitated residential housing. This bill would apply to other existing residences purchased since December 31, 1997. The homestead facility would receive a property tax abatement equal to one-half of the property taxes levied for operating purposes on the building by the local unit and the county. It amends Public Act 147 of 1992. Sponsored by **Sen. Martha Scott** (D-Highland Park), it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 12/31/05, and assigned PA 338 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 339 of 2005
Senate Bill (SB) 530 OF 2005

This bill would make homestead facilities eligible for residential tax abatements under the Neighborhood Enterprise Zone Act. Currently the act applies only to newly constructed and rehabilitated residential housing. This bill would apply to other existing residences purchased since December 31, 1997. The homestead facility would receive a property tax abatement equal to one-half of the property taxes levied for operating purposes on the building by the local unit and the county. It amends Public Act (PA) 147 of 1992. Sponsored by **Sen. Samuel Thomas III** (D-Detroit), it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 12-31-05, and assigned PA 339 with immediate effect.**

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JOB OPPORTUNITIES

ADRC Seeks Project Director

The Aging and Disabilities Resource Centers (ADRC) Project is looking a Project Coordinator who will be responsible to provide leadership and coordination for an overall statewide project to develop, establish and expand the number of regional Aging and Disability Resource Centers in Michigan.

The ADRC Project is funded through a three-year grant from the Administration on Aging (AoA) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The grant will

be operated through the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) Office of LTC Supports and Services, and the work location will be in Lansing. The Project Coordinator will be employed by MDRC, and will work under the direction of MDCH.

The Disability Resource Centers will serve as comprehensive, specialized long-term care (LTC) resources at the local level to consolidate planning for the financing and delivery of LTC, and services such as information and assistance, benefits outreach and proactive choice counseling. The ADRC also will serve as the Single Point of Entry (SPE) to Medicaid-funded LTC programs.

The Project Director will provide guidance and technical assistance to ADRC Project sites; convene work groups and committees to conduct project planning, implementation and oversight; coordinate the development of organizational and operational templates; coordinate data collection and reporting; coordinate policy development and implementation; and communicate with various stakeholders to ensure effective project coordination and dissemination of policies and methods to support project goals.

Requirements include a minimum of two year's experience in human services systems serving senior adults or adults with disabilities. Knowledge and experience in the area of information and assistance is preferred, as well as knowledge of the report and recommendations of the Michigan Medicaid LTC Task Force, the Medicaid program and policy operations for LTC services in Michigan. A Bachelor's degree also is preferred, although applicants with equivalent education and experience will be considered.

This position provides a full range of benefits, and the salary is negotiable, commensurate with qualifications. For questions, call 517/333-2677 or e-mail to mdrc@match.org. To apply, submit a resume and letter of interest outlining qualifications by **February 10** to the Michigan Disability Rights Coalition, 780 West Lansing Road, Suite 200, East Lansing, 48823.

BASCC to Hire Outreach Consultant

The Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council (BASCC) Senior Center in **Birmingham** has an opening for an Outreach Consultant on a part-time basis for the development and delivery of outreach services utilizing community resources. Responsibilities will include client case management, information and assistance, coordination and facilitation of outreach services, and the maintenance of records.

Consideration will be given to persons with experience in working with people, preferably older adults. Communication, human relations and organizational skills are essential. Good working knowledge of windows based computer systems is important. A social work or gerontology degree is preferred.

For more information, call 248/203-5270. To apply, send a letter of application with resume by **February 20** to the BASCC at 2121 Midvale in Birmingham, 48009.

ABOUT RESOURCES FOR AGING

Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor

Sharon L. Gire, OSA Director

This twice-monthly electronic newsletter (e-newsletter) from the **Michigan Office of Services to the Aging (OSA)** is available at no cost.

The events/meetings, funding/grants, and other resources described in Resources for Aging should not be interpreted as constituting OSA endorsement. This information is presented for informational/educational purposes only.

Please help us spread the word about this free resource for aging to those in the aging network and others who are interested. If you or others wish to receive it directly by e-mail, send a request by e-mail to writer/editor **David Dekker** at dekkerd@michigan.gov. Please include name, e-mail address, organization/agency and telephone number.

Comments and suggestions are appreciated. Also, readers are invited to submit information to be considered for publication. Please send to dekkerd@michigan.gov or to Resources for Aging, P.O. Box 30676, Lansing, MI 48909-8176.

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